

CHILDHOOD LEAGUE WILL AID MEXICO

Vast Conservation and Uplift
Plan Outlined at Dinner
Here.

TO BE NON-POLITICAL
System of Instruction Pro-
posed to Meet Needs of
Various Sections.

The Childhood Conservation League, for which application has been made to the courts of New York for incorporation, is a non-sectarian, non-denominational but Christian organization, organized for the purpose of relieving the suffering of women and children in Mexico, Central America and South America, and in any other countries into which the board of trustees feels it their duty to go.

At the present time the league is putting forth its efforts to bring about physical betterment, intellectual stimulation, and moral uplift among the children and young people of the republic of Mexico.

In order to work intelligently on the problems of the various countries the Childhood Conservation League considered that the first thing to be done was to send a commission into the countries which they desire to enter and get facts regarding the various situations. This commission was composed of men whose business it has been to make surveys and observations along social and economic lines for many years.

The commission was sent first to the republic of Mexico. They were asked to go there and make their observations and get all of the data that was possible. Upon arriving in Mexico the commission found it was unwise to make any attempt at an extended trip through southern Mexico, so confined their labor to the northern and central part of that republic. Part of this commission went into Mexico almost one year ago. Others went in very much later, made their investigations along the lines in which they were specialists and have returned to make their report.

On Tuesday evening the Childhood Conservation League gave a dinner for

about 700 of the leaders of New York's religious, social, economic and financial world, at which time the returned commissioners made their report. This dinner was given in order that the people invited might receive at first hand information regarding the Mexican situation that would be entirely free of any sectarian, political or personal bias and receive the facts of the various situations as they are.

In the absence of the president of the league, Dr. Norman Bridge, Dr. William H. Foster presided. Dr. Foster made it clear that the league would not participate in affairs of state, which should be the concern of the American people and the American Government, nor would they participate in any of the local political conditions in Mexico, which concerned Mexico wholly and which should be left in their solution to the Mexican people, but that we were tremendously concerned about the social and economic conditions which prevailed in Mexico and other Latin-American countries, especially as these conditions touched the life and welfare of the women and children of Mexico, Central and South America.

A fact which must be considered is that there are less than 2 per cent. of all the people who are interested in any or all of the armies, Federal or rebel, and bands of ladrones, leaving a good 98 per cent. of the people who are imposed upon and made to suffer all of the horrors imaginable by the other 2 per cent.

Dr. Oscar Ford of Boston, Mass., referred to Mexico as a country of wonderful beauty and great riches and of untold possibilities, but suffering through nine long years of revolution from all of the destructive agencies known to mankind. He pointed to the fact that where at the present time the income of the Government is greater than it has ever been before, yet because of the necessity of keeping up large standing armies many of the schools of the country have been forced to close their doors; also that haciendas and mines and many manufacturing establishments have been compelled to suspend their labors because of the lack of protection and the general unrest.

He said that with a stable government and a friendly attitude on the part of that government toward capital it would be possible to develop the wonderful possibilities of Mexico, and that with hospitals and schools it would be an easy matter to normalize the country, thus unfolding the great possibilities which lay in the character of the Mexican.

American Influence in Mexico.
Dr. William A. Brown, who has spent years in the Orient and is one of the best known platform men on the subject of "The Necessities of Childhood," went into the economic situation of Mexico. He dwelt especially upon the subject of Americans in Mexico. He pointed out the fact that much of the real development of Mexico had been brought about by Americans in the past twenty-five years. He pointed out the fact that many of the possibilities that had been set aside as being useless by the Spaniards had been picked up by the Americans and developed in such a manner as to have brought great wealth to Mexico. It is especially true of the way in which the gold and silver mines have been treated in the past twenty-five years. Some of the mines to-day are working over the minerals which had been cast aside by

the Spaniards in the centuries that are past and gone.

He also pointed out the fact that it was the Americans who developed the great oil fields in Mexico. Again, wherever the Americans had gone it was found that the first thing they had done was to increase the wage of the Mexican laboring man and develop him from pen into a first class artisan, that they had put shoes on the poor's feet, had given them better houses to live in, had erected schools and paid school teachers for their children, and in many other ways had been a great social service and missionary uplift factor.

G. W. Knoblauch, retired officer from the American Army, a civil engineer and a man who has lived in Mexico for many years, spoke on "Mexico in Her Transition." He described the progress and deterioration of Mexico as he had watched it for more than twenty years. He pointed out the fact that in days of peace Mexico had always been a land of peace and of people of great kindness, and that before the country was a country of complete security for human life and property, but that since revolution has run rampant, excepting in sections that are all under the protection of federal forces, life and property are both unsafe in Mexico; that since the revolution began in 1910, during these last nine years there has been no such thing as peace in Mexico and as a consequence there has been a great depopulation of the country, which has been brought about by the loss of life through participation in fighting, disease and starvation and also immigration. The city of Guaymas was reduced at one time from 90,000 to less than 15,000 of her inhabitants. Durango has lost over 40 per cent. Zacatecas has lost over 75 per cent. of her people and some of the country villages have been entirely depopulated by disease.

Dr. O. W. E. Cook, an educator, whose home is in Mexico city and who is president of the National Educational Board, outlined what he believed to be the solution of the Mexican problem. Dr. Cook pointed out the fact that up until the present time Mexican national schools had been run on a plan like the French system and that he believed that she was to-day reaping the results of that system. He held that the only possible solution was to put in a system of schools which would meet the needs and requirements of Mexico; that not only the intellectual life of each child be cared for, but the physical and moral life in the training as well.

These courses would necessarily have to be adjusted to the localities in which they were carried on, as it would be futile to teach agriculture in a distinctly mining community, nor would it serve to teach the science of coffee raising at an altitude of 5,000 feet, where the only prospect that the child would have of making a living would be to go to the mines. He laid great stress on his confidence in the system that has been developed in the United States and believed that there were great possibilities in taking over some system and adjusting it to the Mexican situation.

Dr. James N. Taylor, who has made five trips into Latin America previously and has visited the Orient, dwelt upon the subject of natural resources of Mexico and brought out the fact that Mexico has a long stretch of border which is contiguous to the United States, that she is always going to be on the other side of that border and that it will be absolutely necessary for Americans to take an interest in her pacification. He emphasized the necessity of alleviating the situation in which the women and children find themselves because they have been victims of the revolution, and said that the required time for a real physical, intellectual and moral renovation and reconstruction would be not less than fifteen years. In other words it would be necessary to bring up the new generation.

Dr. Taylor had been a visitor in the home of Mr. Jenkins, the American Consul in Puebla, two days before Mr. Jenkins was captured by the bandits. Dr. Taylor has nothing but contempt for the imputation that Mr. Jenkins was in any way connected with his own abduction. He paid him the tribute as being a fine type of the Christian gentleman, a man that had done much for the Mexicans and Mexico, had made a gift of a large hospital to the city of Puebla and in many other ways had shown his genuine interest in and love for the Mexican people.

Judge W. H. Wadhams, president of the National Child Welfare Society, gave a short address on what that society intends to do and how it desires to co-operate with the Childhood Conservation League in teaching better ways of living to all of the Latin-American women and children.

Dr. Harry Farmer gave a stereopticon lecture, showing about 175 scenes and views from Mexico which made clear to the vision the story as had been told in the previous addresses.

Mercantile Bank Elects Director.
At a meeting of the board of directors of the Mercantile Bank of the Americas of New York, held on December 4, George Willets Davison, president and chairman of the board of trustees of the Central Union Trust Company, was elected a director. Mr. Davison takes the place on the board of the Mercantile Bank of the Americas left vacant by the recent death of James N. Wallace.

Chile Passes Currency Bill.
SANTIAGO, Chile, Dec. 7.—The Chamber of Deputies to-day took final action on the currency conversion bill introduced by Guillermo Subercaseaux, the Finance Minister, passing the measure. The bill fixes the value of the peso at 13 pesos gold and creates a central bank to handle the conversion of the currency to a gold standard and issue bills against gold deposits.

German Goods Reach Brazil.
RIO DE JANEIRO, Dec. 7.—The Swedish steamship Kronprinz Gustav Adolf has arrived at this port with German merchandise. With the arrival of this ship commercial relations between Brazil and Germany have been renewed.

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LATIN AMERICAN COLONY NOTES.

Latin American Section Covers a Wide Field

AMERICAN MANUFACTURERS
EXPORT ASSOCIATION.
160 Broadway, New York.

TO THE EDITOR LATIN AMERICAN
DEPARTMENT, THE SUN—Sir:
It will be a pleasure for us to cooperate with you in your efforts to interest American manufacturers in Latin American trade. We see the Monday edition of THE SUN regularly, and have found it in many items of interest.

A. W. WILLMANN,
Assistant Secretary.
Dec. 3, 1919.

PACIFIC UNION CLUB.
San Francisco, Cal.
TO THE EDITOR LATIN AMERICAN
DEPARTMENT, THE SUN—Sir: We congratulate you on the substantial and excellent work you are doing in the South American trade field.

FRANCIS B. LOOMIS,
Dec. 3, 1919.

Y. M. C. A.
SYRACUSE, N. Y.
TO THE EDITOR LATIN AMERICAN
DEPARTMENT, THE SUN—Sir: It was a great idea of having a Latin American Section in your paper every Monday. You cannot imagine how we Brazilians enjoy it. We never fail to buy a copy of your paper every Monday. Our only regret is that there is not a Brazilian page every day. I congratulate you and hope that in the future instead of two pages there will be more pages. Yours very truly,

Dec. 2, 1919. M. CORREA.

THE BANK OF PITTSBURG.
Pittsburg, Pa.
TO THE EDITOR LATIN AMERICAN
DEPARTMENT, THE SUN—Sir: We know of the very excellent Latin American page of THE SUN has been running on Mondays and appreciate the fine work done.

J. T. HOLDSWORTH,
Dec. 2, 1919. Vice-president.

Rica, Senor Alfredo Gonzalez, who was ill in bed, is now enjoying good health.

The son of Octavio Mayans and Dona Concepcion Serrano de Mayans was baptized last week. The child was named Francisco Octavio, and his godmother and godfather were Senora Comas and her husband.

Arturo Aguilar, son of the President of Costa Rica, left for Washington a few days ago to take the secretaryship of the Costa Rican Commission sent by that country to the United States.

Leopoldo Curra Rizo is a recent arrival from Bogota, Colombia.

Jose Maria Fernandez T. of Oruro, Bolivia, has come to New York for a brief stay.

Manuel Santos C., a Colombian who was ill, is now on the road to recovery.

The dance organized by the Centro Hispano Americano, which took place at Hunt's Point Palace, 1634 street and Southern Boulevard, was a success. The Seventy-first Infantry Regimental band of New York played popular selections.

Ramon Nieto, recently appointed on

an official mission to London by the Carrara Government, is in New York on his way to England. He will sail for Great Britain on Thursday, December 11. Sr. Nieto stated that his mission was a commercial one.

Alfredo Ewing, Chilean military attaché at Washington, will leave for his country on the steamship Santa Luisa. The Chilean colony in New York will give a farewell banquet for him. Sr. Ewing was in Washington for four years. Upon his arrival in Chile he will again enter the Chilean Army.

Perez de Ayala, the young Spanish journalist and writer, gave a conference last Tuesday night at Havemeyer Hall, Columbia University, relative to Julio Antonio, the famous Spanish sculptor. In the same hall where the late Mexican poet, Amado Nervo, resided some of his most brilliant verses, Senor Ayala described the life and work of Julio Antonio. Several instructive views of some of the most artistic carvings of that Spanish genius were shown, among them a remarkable likeness of Wagner.

George M. Bradt, editor and publisher of the Havana Post, the only daily American newspaper in Havana, died last week at the Post Graduate Hospital of New York city after a short illness. Mr. Bradt was one of the most prominent members of the American colony in Havana, having lived in Cuba for fifteen years. He was born in Chattanooga, Tenn., in 1855. It is said that he was extremely fond of flowers and the first park in Chattanooga was attributed to his activity. There is a carnation known as the George M. Bradt.

Walton H. Marshall of the Vanderbilt Hotel of Porto Rico, his wife and several of his friends arrived in New York from San Juan on the Coamo. They went to Porto Rico with the purpose of attending the opening of the Vanderbilt Hotel at San Juan. Mr. Marshall says that Porto Rico will become the mecca of American tourists, and that the famous Coamo waters can compete with the best of Europe. The mountains of Porto Rico, according to Mr. Marshall, are most picturesque and beautiful, and there are 400 automobile roads that lead to the peaks.

Capt. Walter Fletcher Smith, owner of the Plaza Hotel, Havana, Cuba, who is at the Hotel McAlpin, says that Havana is already well filled with American and South American visitors, and that the list of reservations of those who intend to visit the Cuban city promises to extend well into April and May of next year. The hotel room capacity of Havana is 20,000, says Capt. Smith, and this promises to be taxed to its utmost all during January, February and March. The racing season began on Thanksgiving Day and will continue for three months. It is said that the number of passports already applied for from the United States alone exceeds 200,000, while many yachtsmen will visit Havana harbor during the season. In view of this, said Capt. Smith, it is not hard to predict an unusual winter for Cuba.

Belisario Porras, Jr., Consul-General of Panama in New York and son of the President of that republic, went to Philadelphia to spend the week end there. During his stay in that city he was entertained by some of his American friends. Senor Porras will return to New York this morning.

JAPAN ENTERS BOLIVIA.

Company Secures Lease on Farm-
ing Lands.

LA PAZ, Bolivia, Dec. 7.—It has been announced that a Japanese company has secured a lease of a section of farming land ninety by twenty miles in extent near Tarija, in the southern part of the republic. This marks the first attempt of citizens of the Land of the Rising Sun to secure a foothold in Bolivia, but such action has been anticipated for some time.

The Bolivian Legation in Tokio has been approached on numerous occasions by Japanese capitalists, who wished to secure mining and railroad concessions, but without definite results up to the present time. It is also announced that a treaty of amity and commerce will be shortly ratified between the two countries.

Cuban Dance Inventor Ill.
HAVANA, Dec. 7.—Miguel Falde, inventor of the popular Cuban national dance, el dansen, is seriously ill. This dance is widely known in Cuba, Porto Rico, Santo Domingo and in many other Latin American countries. It is the rival of the Argentine tango and the Porto Rican danza.

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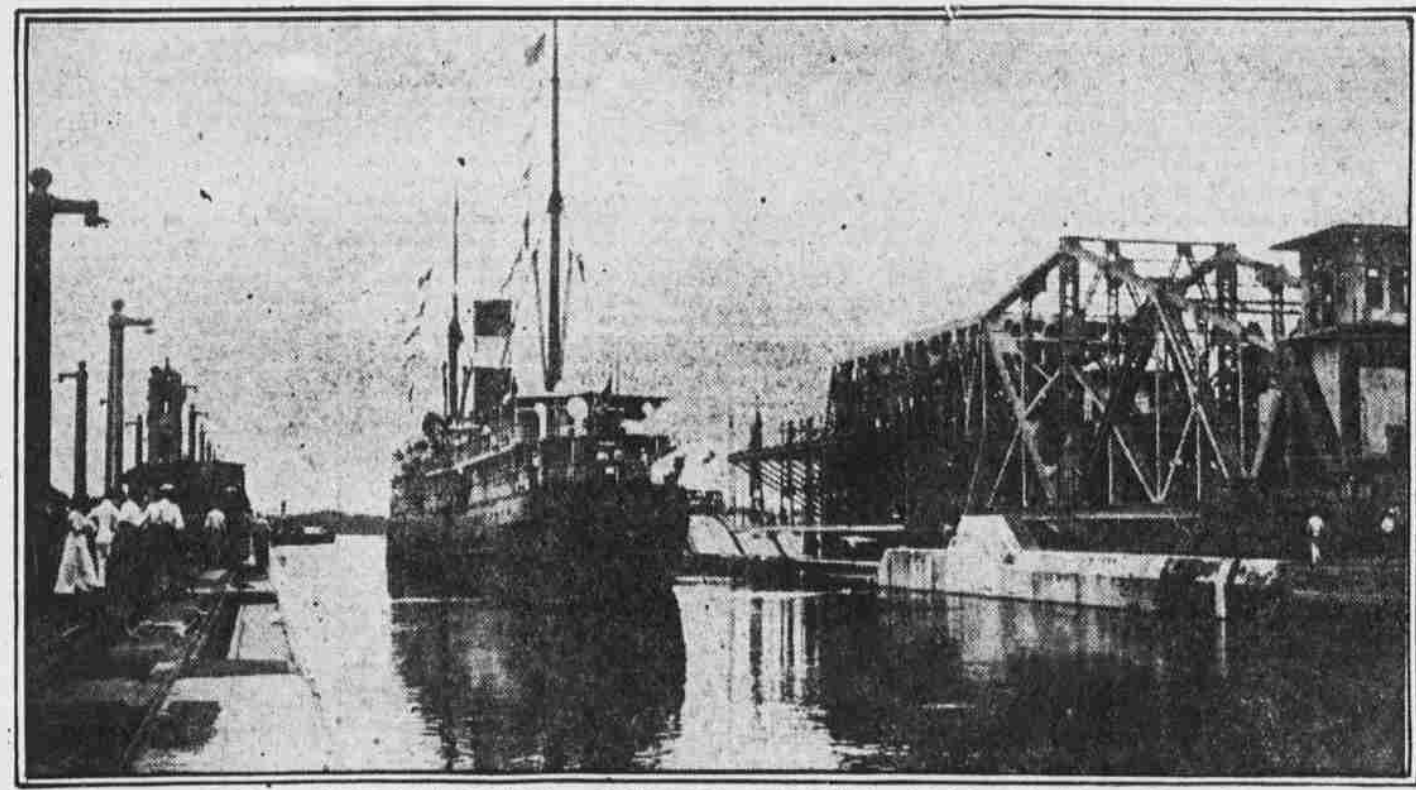
PANAMA.

PANAMA.

PANAMA.

PANAMA.

What the Panama Canal Means to the American Exporter



FIRST STEAMSHIP GOING THRU PANAMA CANAL
© by UNDERWOOD & UNDERWOOD

THE Republic of Panama is a country relatively so young that to the foreigner it is almost unknown. The area of the Republic of Panama is approximately 88,500 square kilometers, and of these only a third is inhabited.

PANAMA is a storehouse of riches of the greatest magnitude, which will be available at no distant date. Its fortunate geographical position between the two continents of the new world serves as a bridge of communication between the United States and the countries of Central and South America. Its proximity to the great Panama Canal gives it a constant stream of tourists and travellers from all the countries of the world.

ONE of the greatest natural resources is the sugar industry. Large quantities of bananas are exported from Panama.

CULTIVATION of cocoa, which up to the present has been cultivated only by the Indians, offers great possibilities. Panama is favorable for cattle raising, owing to the excellent natural pasture land.

THE Panama Government is organizing an extensive publicity campaign which will place before the eyes of the world a prosperous country of republican Government, where the foreigner will find excellent conditions for a healthy tropical life.

FURTHER information can be obtained by addressing Mr. Belisario Porras, Jr., Consul-General of Panama, 11 Broadway, New York City.

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